

CLAIMS

1. A method of testing a mobile telephone terminal (10) comprising the steps of transmitting to the terminal on a downlink (11) a predetermined data pattern (13) which it will recognise and which will prompt it to transmit an access request on an uplink (12), and receiving the access request and analysing it (15) to assess the performance of the terminal (10) without responding to the terminal.
2. A method as claimed in claim 1 in which multiple predetermined data patterns are provided for testing the terminal under different operating conditions, each data pattern prompting a different response from the terminal in transmitting an access request.
3. A method as claimed in claim 2 in which said multiple predetermined data patterns are such that they each prompt the terminal to transmit an access request at a different power level.
4. A method as claimed in claim 2 or 3 in which said multiple predetermined data patterns are such that they each specify a different maximum number of times the terminal should send an access request if it receives a response to none of them.
5. A method as claimed in any one of the preceding claims in which said predetermined data pattern is transmitted multiple times at different power levels and the response of the terminal analysed to determine a threshold at which it fails to transmit an access request.
6. A method as claimed in any one of the preceding claims in which said predetermined data pattern is transmitted to the terminal on a cable connection.
7. A method as claimed in any one of claims 1 to 5 in which said predetermined data pattern is transmitted to the terminal over an air interface.

8. A method as claimed in claim 7 in which the air interface is screened from other signals.
9. A method as claimed in any of the preceding claims in which the access request is analysed by a power measurement.
10. A method as claimed in any one of claims 1 to 8 in which the access request is analysed by a modulation quality measurement.
11. Test apparatus for testing a mobile telephone terminal (10), the test apparatus being adapted to transmit a predetermined data pattern (13) on a downlink (11) to prompt a response from the terminal (10) in the form of an access request on an uplink (12), the test apparatus being adapted to analyse (15) the access request and produce a test result (16) without further responding to the terminal.
12. Test apparatus as claimed in claim 11 which generates multiple predetermined data patterns for testing the terminal under different operating conditions of transmission power level and/or maximum number of access requests to be transmitted if there is no response to any of them.
13. Test apparatus as claimed in claim 11 or 12 which is adapted to vary the power level at which it transmits said predetermined data pattern and to analyse the response to each from the terminal.
14. Test apparatus as claimed in any one of claims 11 to 13 which is connected to the terminal to transmit said predetermined data pattern either by a cable connection or an air interface.
15. Test apparatus as claimed in any of claims 11 to 14 which is adapted to analyse the access request by making a power measurement.

16. Test apparatus as claimed in any of claims 11 to 14 which is adapted to analyse the access request by making a modulation quality measurement.